

DPD-3019-59

5 May 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT : Possible Acquisition of C-130 Aircraft

REFERENCE : DPD-2917-59, 30 April 1959, same subject

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1. In accordance with your approval of reference memo, I called Mr. Johnson at Lockheed and explained our interest in obtaining performance data, cost figures, and delivery schedules on the "Super Hercules", which is the enlarged version of the C-130-B.
 2. Kelly told me that the Super Hercules was still in the proposal stage and that a realistic estimate as to its availability would be approximately two years. He said Col. Geary had told him of Mr. Bissell's possible interest in acquiring several C-130-B's in the immediate future. I told Kelly that it was my understanding from [] that contact had been made by some of our Operations people with the Lockheed plant at Marietta, Ga., to obtain such information. Kelly added that in his view the Super Hercules was going to be a significantly better aircraft than the C-130-B and would also have the advantage as far as we were concerned of being owned by commercial firms, i. e., cargo-carrying airlines, both in the U. S. and abroad.
 3. I asked Kelly if Lockheed would be amenable to a lease-purchase agreement, whereby C-130-B's purchased now could be turned in for Super Hercules models as they become available. Kelly said he was certain Lockheed would be agreeable since this had become the pattern in dealings on the Electra. He promised to obtain and forward to me the performance data and other information as requested above. He mentioned that the Super Hercules was to be powered with the T61 Allison engine, rated at 5,000 ESHP, which is quite a bit larger than the present Allison engine in the C-130, which is rated in the neighborhood of 3,500 ESHP. Kelly added that if we were interested in the C-130-B or the Super Hercules, arrangements could be made to insert our requirements directly into the production line which would enable us to obtain advantages from a cost standpoint of economies accruing to the Air Force, and in turn the Air Force would benefit from economies realized from increasing the size of the order.

SIGNED

JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Acting Chief, DPD-DD/P

DPD-DD/RJACJr/hh

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25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW